

GUIDELINE B-12
(formerly 15-13)

Potable Water Storage Structures

Legislative Authority:

Ontario Water Resources Act, Section 52

Responsible Director:

Director, Program Development Branch

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SYNOPSIS

This guideline establishes the requirement for the provision of covers for structures used for the storage of potable water. This requirement is necessary to ensure that water stored for human consumption remains free from contamination subsequent to treatment.

This guideline was written in support of Guideline B-5: "Drinking Water Quality" dealing with Drinking Water Quality in Ontario. Water for drinking and other domestic uses shall be safe, palatable and aesthetically appealing. It should be free from pathogenic organisms and hazardous levels of chemicals.

1.0 Definitions

Potable Water:

Water from ground or surface sources that is supplied for human consumption.

Potable Water Storage Structures:

A structure where potable water is stored for use by consumers.

2.0 Guideline Objective

The objective of this guideline is to ensure that stored potable water remains free of contamination after treatment.

3.0 Application

3.1 General

This guideline applies to all potable water storage structures supplied from waterworks operated by municipalities and others covered under the provisions of the *Ontario Water Resources Act*, Section 52.

3.2 Ministry Involvement

This guideline shall be used by Ministry staff when reviewing plans for new waterworks or for upgrading or expanding existing works.

4.0 Ministry Requirements for Municipal and Communal Waterworks

All existing and future potable water storage structures shall be completely covered to prevent contamination of the stored water. The type of cover shall be decided by the operating authority in consultation with its consulting engineers, and subject to the approval of the Director under the *Ontario Water Resources Act*, Section 52.